



# Solidarity!

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## Now's the Time to Renew Your MTI Membership

When the Collective Bargaining Agreements expire on June 30, 2016, additional Act 10 prohibitions will apply to MTI, including the **elimination of fair share payments** and the **payroll deduction of Union dues**. To prepare for these changes, MTI is engaging in a **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL CAMPAIGN** to sign up MTI members and transition from “*payroll deduction*” of Union dues to “*direct dues*” payment (i.e., payment via bank draft/electronic funds transfer). That campaign starts **TODAY**.



### How do I renew my MTI membership?

Go to [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org) where you can quickly complete an on-line membership form to renew your MTI membership and elect a method of dues payment (with dues payments starting this fall). MTI strongly recommends that you pay dues via the “bank draft” option in which your monthly dues will be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.

### When do I need to renew my MTI membership?

The membership year starts July 1. We are asking that all current MTI-represented employees renew their MTI membership as soon as possible, but no later than the last day of the school year, **June 10, 2016**. This will allow MTI to better forecast the revenues available to provide member representation and services for the 2016-17 school year.

More information on renewing your MTI membership is available at [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org). Over the next few weeks, we will highlight the numerous reasons to renew your MTI Membership.

### #1 Reason to Renew Your MTI Membership: A continued voice for your profession, your students, and public education

When you **join** your colleagues as an MTI member, you are making a decision to stand together in solidarity on important issues that impact your profession, our schools and our students. MTI provides you with a voice in the work place, with the School Board, and at the State Capitol. Our opponents are highly organized. We need to be as well.

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## Ready to Represent? MTI Teacher Faculty Rep Teams Needed

MTI is a Union built on the premise that an active and involved membership, led by democratically-elected leaders and supported by highly-qualified staff, can best promote the interests of public education, the education profession and the members of the Union. MTI's motto, “*Collectively we decide, united we act*” is our mutual pledge to each other to strive to include the voices of all MTI members in our decisions, and to demonstrate solidarity in our actions.

The **MTI Faculty Representative (FR)** is a critical component to this mission. *Every school/work location should have a team of Faculty Reps* working together to represent their colleagues. Schools and work sites are entitled to one (1) FR for every fifteen (15) members at the school or worksite.

MTI Faculty Reps serve to represent the concerns and interests of the MTI members at *their* work location with MTI members *district-wide* via the **MTI Faculty Representative Council (FRC)**, the policy forming body of the MTI teacher unit. FRs also serve to represent the concerns and interests of MTI members at their work location with the building principal or

supervisor, and work towards **collaborative problem solving** (a joint initiative between MTI and MMSD).

If you are interested in representing your colleagues and being a part of making positive change, contact your Senior MTI Faculty Rep by **April 15** to let them know you would like to be nominated for one of the FR positions at your school/work site.

**Election Process:** Pursuant to MTI Bylaws, FR elections occur during the **fourth** week of April. This year's election will take place April 25-29. Nominations are sought and posted a week prior to the election. Any member may nominate another member at their worksite. Members may also self-nominate. The Senior FR then conducts a secret ballot election among members at each work location. The election results are reported to MTI Headquarters, who will announce the names of the newly-elected FRs. Those elected serve a two (2) year term with terms staggered among FRs at each work site. Newly-elected FRs will be installed at the May 17 FRC meeting. If you have questions about the process or do not currently have an MTI Faculty Rep at your school, please contact MTI staff.

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**Ready to Represent (continued)****Examples of Faculty Representative duties:**

- Attend and represent staff at MTI Faculty Representative Council meetings on a regular basis. The FRC meets monthly during the school year (typically the third Tuesday of the month, from 4:30-6:00 pm).
- Distribute MTI communications to MTI members at their work location (e.g., *MTI Solidarity!*).
- Promote and oversee the enrollment of MTI members and coordinate the membership and recertification campaigns at their work location.
- Participate in the “**Memorial Project/Cooperative Problem Solving (CPS) Process**” at their school:
  - Participate in CPS training provided by MTI/MMSD
  - Communicate on a regular basis with principal or administrator
  - Share member concerns with MTI and administration as appropriate
  - Work to identify collaborative solutions to worksite problems
- Coordinate with and support other MTI bargaining unit reps or members of other units as needed
- Serve on MTI committees as needed
- Hold worksite MTI meetings as needed
- Communicate issues/concerns with MTI staff and leadership as they arise

*Nobody needs to do it all. These responsibilities should be shared by a team of Faculty Reps at each school*

**Supports:**

MTI leadership and staff provide a variety of supports to assist MTI Faculty Reps with their responsibilities and to facilitate the development of processes such as **Collaborative Problem Solving**. These supports include formal FR training opportunities, as well as regular and on-going communications and support from MTI elected leadership and staff.

## **MTI Bowl-A-Thon April 24! Need Teams, Silent Auction Items, & Volunteers**

MTI Cares 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bowl-A-Thon is quickly approaching on Sunday, April 24 from 12-3:00 p.m., at Dream Lanes (13 Atlas Court). **All proceeds for this event go to the Briarpatch Youth Services’ Shelter for Homeless Teens.** We have already raised over \$4,000 from sponsors and we need your help to make this event another success! MTI helped get this shelter built, now we can help support its continued operations!

**Register a team today!** Teams of 4-6 bowlers, reserve your lane. **Recruit a team from your school and sponsor the “School Team” with small donations.** Teams do not need to be MTI members. Information and sign-ups are available at the MTI Bowl-a-Thon website:

[www.madisonteachers.org/bowl-a-thon2016](http://www.madisonteachers.org/bowl-a-thon2016)

**Donate an item for the silent auction!** We are once again featuring a silent auction of donated items and gifts. If you have something of value to donate, please contact Lora Schmid-Dolan ([lucydarua@yahoo.com](mailto:lucydarua@yahoo.com)), or MTI Staff Representative, Jeff Knight ([knightj@madisonteachers.org](mailto:knightj@madisonteachers.org) / 257-0491). We will need all silent auction items by Thursday, April 21.

**Volunteer to help!** We need about 10-15 volunteers on the day of the Bowl-a-Thon to keep things running smoothly with set-up (10:00-12 noon), registration (11:30-1:00 p.m.) and silent auction management (1:00-3:00 p.m.). If you can help, sign-up at the MTI website.

**MTI Cares is the MTI Community Outreach Committee.** If you’d like to participate in MTI Cares, contact Jeff Knight. United We Stand (to help our community)!

## **MTI 50<sup>th</sup>/EA-MTI Walk-out 20<sup>th</sup>/ Strike 40<sup>th</sup>/2011 Protest 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

Date: **Saturday, May 7, 2016**

Time: 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Location: Madison Labor Temple  
(1602 S. Park St.)

## *April Calendar*

- **Monday, April 11, 4:30 p.m., MTI**  
MTI Board of Directors
- **Monday, April 11, 5:15 p.m., Doyle Room 103**  
BOE Operations Work Group
- **Tuesday, April 12, 4:15 p.m., MTI**  
MTI VOTERS Political Action Committee
- **Friday, April 15 Professional Development Day**
  - **Tuesday, April 19, SCFL Room 201B**  
MTI Faculty Representative Council (4:15 p.m.)  
MTI Joint Fiscal Group (4:45 p.m.)
- MTI Membership Organizing Training (5:00 p.m.)
  - **Wednesday, April 20, 4:15 p.m., MTI**  
USO-MTI Board of Directors
  - **Saturday, April 24, 12-3:00 p.m., Dream Lanes**  
MTI Cares Bowl-a-thon
  - **Monday, April 25, 5:30 p.m., Doyle Room 103**  
BOE Special Meeting (Open)
  - **Monday, April 25, 6:00 p.m., Doyle Auditorium**  
BOE Regular Meeting
  - **Wednesday, April 27, 4:30 p.m., MTI**  
SSA-MTI General Membership

## *Our Union Makes Us Strong!*

MTI’s web page - [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)

MTI’s email - [MTI@madisonteachers.org](mailto:MTI@madisonteachers.org)